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## DARK DAYS,

BY HUGH CONWAY.

Author of "Called Back."

CHAPTER II .-- CONTINUED. Philippa rose. "I must go," she

I pressed food and wine upon her; she would take nothing. She

made, however, no objection to my accompanying her to her home. We left the house by the casement by which she entered. Together we stepped out on the snow whitened road. She took my arm and we walked toward her home.

I asked her with whom she was staying. She told me with a widow lady and two children, named Wilson. She went to them at Sir Mervyn Ferrand's command. Mrs.

by?" I asked.

"He said I was to call myself by Ferrand's request, unless I could one of those faces cast in an aqui-I told Mrs. Wilson everything.

"She believed you?" "She was bound to believe me. she may have thought at first, boast of very few. He treats chronic or long stansanling disease | she saw then that I was his wife. No one else knows it except her. To her I am Lady Ferrand. Like me, she never dreamed to what man's villainy can reach. Oh, MISSOURI. allowed to live?"

> seemed to break down. Till now the chief characteristics of her mood had been scorn and anger. Now, scheer grief for the time appeared to sweep away every other emotion. Sob after sob broke broke from her. I endeavored to calm her-to comfort her. Alas! how little I could say or do to this end! She leaned heavily and despondently on my arm, and for a long while we walked in silence. At last she told me her home was close at hand.

"Listen, Philippa," I said; "I shall come in with you and see this lady with whom you are staying. I shall tell her I am your brother, that for some time I have known how shamefully your husband has neglected you; and that now, with your full consent, I mean to take you away. Whether this woman believes in our relationship or not, matters nothing. I suppose she knows that man is coming to-morrow. After his heartless desertion, she cannot be surprised at your wish to avoid meeting him."

I paused. Philipps bent her head as if assenting to my plan.

"To-morrow," I continued, 'long before that wretch comes here to poison the very air we breathe, I shall come and fetch you. Early in the morning I will send my servant for your luggage. Mrs. Wilson may know me and my man by sight. That makes no difference. There need be no concealment. You are free to come and go. You have no one to fear. On Thursday morning we will leave this place."

"Yes," said Philippa, dreamily, "to-morrow I will leave-I will come to you, But I will come alone. In the evening, most likely, when no one will know where I have gone."

"But how much better that I should take you away openly and in broad daylight, as a brother you, her brother, will see to it." would take a sister!"

"No: I will come to you. You will not mind waiting, Basil. There is something I must do first. Something to be said; some one to fraternity deceive her. This was be seen. What is is it? who is it? of no consequence. I cannot recollect."

n her brow. She pushed back Then I rose. her head a little and gave a sigh on her temples. Poor girl! after I asked. what she had that day gone through no wonder her mind refused to recall trivial details and petty arrangements to be made before she joined me. Sleep and her wandering memory.

to come to me alone. At last, very once, surprised. reluctantly, I was obliged to give way on this point; but I was determined to see this Mrs. Wilson to-night; so when we reached the house I entered with Philipps.

I told her there was no occasion for her to be present at my interview with the hostess. She look-Wilson, he told her, was a distant | ed frightfully weary, and at my connection of his own, and he had suggestion went straight to her made arrangements for her to look room to retire for the night. I sat tigation. after Philippa during her illness. down and waited the advent of "What name do they know you Mrs. Wilson. She soon appear-

A woman of about five and thirthe false name, which, for pur- ty; well but plainly dressed. As poses of his own, he chose to pass I glanced at her with some curiunder. But I felt myself absolved osity, I decided that when young from my promise of secrecy. Why she must, after a certain type of should I stay in a strange house beauty, have been extremely good with strange people by Sir Meryyn looking. Unfortunately hers was show good cause for doing so? So line mold-faces which, as soon as the bloom of youth is lost or the owners thereof turn to thinness, become, as a rule, sharp, strained, I would have no doubt cast upon hungry and severe-looking. Whatmy word. I showed her the certi- ever the woman's charms might ficate of my marriage. Whatever once have been, she could now

There were lines around her mouth and on her brow which told of suffering; and, as 1 judged it, not the calm, resigned suffering, which often leaves a sweet if sad Basil! Basil! why are such men expression on the face; but fierce, rebellious, constrained suffering, For the first time Philippa such as turns a young heart into an old one long before its time.

As she entered the room and bowed to me her face expressed surprise at seeing a visitor who was a stranger to her. I apologized for the lateness of my call; then hastened to tell her its object. She listened with polite impassibility. She made no comment when I repeatedly spoke of my so-styled sister as Lady Ferrand. It was clear that, as Philippa had said, Mrs. Wilson was conheartless conduct and scandalous suspicion that she was acting, in- tions for the night. deed rather over-acting, a part, crossed my mind once or twice.

has not seen her for quite a week. I mentioned it to her this afternoon; but she appears to have taken an unaccountable dislike to him, and utterly refused to see him. I do not wish to alarm you

The peculiar stress she laid up-

might mean anything. "We are at Sir Mervyn's actions. He heart. the certainty of my sympathy and wrote to me and told me that

> surpised her, nothing else. I to be a certainty. could see that Mrs. Wilson knew Nevertheless, William brought and something told me that her for me to do but wait patiently relations with him were of a na- until she chose to cross my thresture which might not bear inves- hold.

cably mingled.

CHAPTER III.

"THE WAGES OF SIN."

Morning! No books; no idle, bright smile play once more round her mouth, the dark eyes again eloquent with happy thoughts. And then-and then! what should I care for the world or its sneers? To whom, save myself, should I be answerable? Then I might whisper in her ear, "Sweet, let the past vanish from our lives as a dream. Let happiness date from

to-day." Although Philippa would grace my poor cottage for one night onvinced as to the valid nature of ly, I had a thousand preparations the marriage. I inveighed round- to make for her comfort. Fortuly against Sir Mervyn Ferrand's nately I had a spare room, and moreover, a furnished one. Not neglect of his wife. My hearer that I should have troubled, when shrugged her shoulders, and the I went into my seclusion about meaning conveyed by the action such a superfluity as a guestwas that, although she regretted chamber; but as it happened I family jars, they were no concern had bought the house and the furof hers. She seemed quite with- niture complete; so could offer my out interest in the matter; yet a welcome guest fair accommoda-

I summoned my stolid man. I tol him that my sister was coming When I told her it was Lady on a visit to me; that she would Ferrand's intention to place her- sleep here to-night, but that most self to-morrow under my protec- likely we should go away to-mortion, she simply bowed. When I row. He could stay and look after said that most likely we should the house until I returned or sent leave England, and for a while him instructions what to do with travel on the continent, she said it. William manifested no surthat my sister's health would no prise. Had I told him to make doubt be much benefited by the preparations for the coming of my wife and five children, he would "I may mention," she added, for have considered it all a part of the the first time taking any real part day's work, and would have done in the talk, "that your sister's his best to meet my requirements. state is not quite all it should be. He set to work in his imperturb-For the last day or two I have been able, methodical, but handy way thinking of sending for the medi- to get Philippa's room in trim. As cal man who attended her during soon as this was done, and the her unfortunate confinement. He neglected chamber made cozy and warm looking, I told him to borrow a horse and cart somewhere. and fetch the luggage from Mrs. Wilson's. He was to mention no -I merely mention this; no doubt if the lady had any message to about the result which I desired, away by force.

which my love would occupy, and him in public places. on the word "brother" told me mused upon the strange but un- A wild scheme for these prosaic and meet my expected guest. If until May 21 and all those in need that I was right in thinking the happy chance which was bringing law-abiding days; yet the only by any chance I should miss her, of properly adjusted spectacles woman was acting. and that not her beneath my roof. I wished one that was feasible. It may be he was to welcome her on my be- and eye glasses should avail them-Something to be done to-morrow. for one moment did my assumed that I had an enchanter's wand to said that I should have taken half, and tell her the reason for seves of this opportunity. Examturn the humble garniture of the steps to have caused the miscreant my absence.

She placed her disengaged hand health will be my care," I said, ed that I had, at least, flowers vet, save his own, unsigned conwith which I could deck her fession? Who was to move in the "You are related to Sir Mervyn resting place; for I remembered matter-Philippa-myself? We of relief as she felt the keen air Ferrand, I believe, Mrs. Wilson?" how passionately she loved flow- did not even know where this wife ers. Alas! I had not seen a flower of whom he had spoken lived, or said William. To humor him I She gave me a quick look which for months.

Then I drew out Sir Mervyn

William was away about two protection would no doubt restore knowing my circumstances were hours; then he made his appearstraitened, he had recommended a ance with some boxes. I was de-However, although I again and lady to come and live with me for lighted to see these tangible signs again urged her to change her a few months. When I found this that Philippa meant to keep her mind, she was firm in her resolve lady was his wife, I own I was for promise. Till that moment I had From the emphasis which she the doubt that after all she might, laid on certain words, I know it upon calm reflection, rescind the was but the fact of Philippa's be- resolution formed in her exciteing married to the scoundrel that ment. Now her coming seemed

Sir Mervyn Ferrand thoroughly, no message; so there was nothing

Although my pleasing labors of I bade her good-night, and love were ended, I was not left idle. walked back to my cottage with a There was another task to be done heart in which sorrow, pity, love, to-day. I set my teeth and sat hatred, exultation, and it may be, down, thinking quietly as to the ing yielded so lightly to Philippa's | we stand ready to refund the purhope, were strangely and inextri- way in which it might be best wish-her command rather-that performed. To-night I meant to I should on no account fetch her. stand face to face with that black- But then, whenever did I resist a bearted scoundrel known as Sir wish, much less a command, of Meryyn Ferrand.

I consulted the time table, His letter named no particular hour: istless hours for me to-day. Plen- but I saw that if he carried out his homage, worship, and respect can miles from the station. Let me vals. but I should know him. I should know him among a thosand. There tain of cajoling, buying off, or in some other way silencing the womeet, not her, but the man who from the first bad sworn that a wrong to Philippa should be more than a wrong to himself! He

present mood I was bent upon avenging Philippa with my own gone! I stamped in my rage. After hand; true that I meant, if possi- all, I can only do one-half of my ble, to take at some time or anoth- haif. Shall I, indeed, do either? er this man's life; but at least no The train must now be close to though of taking any advantages Rodling. In an bour everything of an unarmed and unsuspecting may be lost. The man will see man entered into my scheme of her before she leaves the house. vengeance. I designed no mur- listen to his words; for did he not derous attack. But it was my in once love her? He must have on the lungs. Ballard's Horetention to stop the man on his loved her! After all, he broke path; to confront him and tell him the laws for the sake of possessing that his villainy was known to me; loved him then; and she is but a every case, when used for any that Philippa had fled to me for woman! aid; that she was now in my custody; and that I, who stood in the state of mind grew unbearable. At position of her brother, demanded all hazards I must prevent Ferthe so-called satisfaction which. by the old-fashioned code of hon- promised? Could it be she was ruthlessly betrayed a woman, spite of her uninterested manner, Well I knew that it was probable he would laugh at me-tell me o'clock. Philippa's house, from Then I meant to see if insults must go in search of Philippa. If come for the luggage, and to ask hand on his cheek could bring tains her, and if needful bear her Fout, agent for his celebrated If this failed, I would follow him Then I sat down in the room abroad, cane him and spit upon brought me back to my own house. a complete assortment can be

"I am myself a doctor. Her for my queenly Philippa. I wish- what proof of his crime had we as them roads is precious rough."

where she died. There were a put it into my pocket. hundred ways in which he might I ran at the top of speed to the connections," she said carelessly. Ferrand's letter read it again and escape from justice, but whether house at which I had last night "You must have been surprised again, and cursed the writer in my he was punished for his sin or allowed to go scot-free, Philippa's the bell impetuously. The door name and wrongs must be bruited was opened by a maid-servant. I about, her shame made public, inquired for Mrs. Farmer, know-No; there was but one course to take, and but one person to take it. It rested with me to avenge the wrongs of the woman I loved on foot and alone, some little been troubled by something like by the good old-fashioned way of a while ago. The maid believed life against a life.

> Truly, as I said, I had new plenty to live for!

The hours went by, yet Philippa came not. I grew restless and uneasy as the dusk began to make the road, up which I gazed almost continually, dim and indistinct, When the short winter's day was over, and the long dark night had fairly began, my restlessness turned into fear. I walked out of my house and paced my garden to and hers? Oh, that I had been firm

The snow-storm of the previous evening had not lasted long-not ty to do, plenty to think about; all expressed intention of being here long enough to thoroughly whiten sorts of arrangements to make. to-night, there was but one train the world. The day had been fine Farewell to my aimless, selfish by which he could come; there and frosty, but I knew that the existence. Henceforward I should was but one way from Roding to wind had changed which I felt have something worth living for the house at which Philippa had sure presaged a heavy downfall of taught 20; those that were present --worth dying for, if needs be! been staying. He meant to walk, snow or rain. There was a moon, Philippa was coming to me to-day; his letter said; this might be in a fitful moon; for clouds were flycoming in grief, it is true; coming order to escape observation. The ing across it, dark clouds, which I as a sister comes to a brother. Ah! train was due at Roding at seven guessed would soon gather coherafter all the weary, weary waiting o'clock. The weather was cold; a ence and volume, and veil entirely April 18th, and ending June 10th; I shall see her to-day-to-morrow, man would naturally walk fast. that bright face, which new only average daily attendance 18; every day! If a man's devotion, Mrs. Wilson's house must be four showed itself at irregular inter- those that were present every day

in her own yes reinstate my start from there just before the The minutes were passing away and Charlie Harris. There were queen, I shall some day see the train arrives, and I should proba- 1 grew nervous and excited. Why 60 present during the last day, had bly meet him about half way on does she not come? My nope nad his journey. It would be dark, been to see my poor girl safely housed before I started to execute my other task. Why does she not come? Time, precious time, is on the open lonely road Sir slipping by! In the hope of meet-Mervyn Ferrand, coming gayly, ing her, I walked for some disand in his worldly cynicism cer- tance up the road. "Why does she delay?" I groaned. Even now I should be on my way to Roding, or I may miss my prey. Heavens man who had in an evil day trust- can it be that she is waiting to see ed to his honor and love, would this man once more? Never! never! Perish the thought!

But, all the same, every fiber in my body quivered at the bare supposition of such a thing.

I could bear the suspense no would meet this man and be called longer. For the hundreth time I glanced at my watch. It wanted but ten minutes to seven o'clock, Stern and sinister as were my and at that hour I had resolved to thoughts-freely and unreserved- start from Mrs. Wilson's, on my ly as I record them: as indeed 1 way to Roding. Yet now I dared think of a mother who is more endeavor in this tale to record not leave my own house. Any moment might bring Philippa. everything-I do not wish to be What would she think if I was not children's souls are saved or not? misjudged. It is true that in my there to receive and welcome her?

Five more precious moments task; the sweet, but not the stern He will persuade her. She will her, and-cursed thought-she So I tortued myself until my

rand from meeting Philippa. Oh, why had she not come as she or, was due from the man who had detained against her will? In I distrusted the woman I had seen and refuse to grant my request. was nearly three miles away. I

By this time my steps had

"Best take a lantern, sir," said chamber into surroundings meet to be arrested for bigamy. But William; "moon'll be hidden, and

"I can't be bothered with that great horn affair," I said rather

"Take the little one-the bull's eye-that's better than nothing,"

left Philippa. It took me nearly half an hour getting there. I rang ing that Philippa had passed under this name to all except her hostess. To my surprise I was told that she had left the house, she was not going to return, as her luggage had that morning been sent for.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Deserving Praise,

We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell as well. or that have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate fro. I blamed myself for hav- to guarantee them every time, and chase price, if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies have won their great popularity purely on their merits -B. F. Henry Druggist.

School Report.

Second and last report of Pleasant Ridge or Prough school commencing the 16th of May 1892, and ending 10th of June. Number of pupils enrolled during the month 22; average daily attendance 18; number of days every day during the month were Dora and Ora Bell, Alta Harris, Alta, and Hattie Munn, Charlie and Clinton Harris.

TERM REPORT-Commencing during the term were; Dora and Ora Bell, Alta and Hattie Munn, an elegant dinner and are it in the Grove near the cemetery.

The man who can rejoice in the Lord always never has to go to the circus or the theatre to be happy.

BYRD M. LINDER, Teacher.

The Homeliest Man in Kırksville.

As well as the handsomest, and others are invited to call on any druggist and get free a trial bottle Kemp's Balsam for the throat and lungs, a remedy that is selling entirely upon its merits and is guaranteed to relieve and cure all chronic and acute coughs, asthma bronchitis and consumption. Large bottles 50 cents and \$1.

What do you suppose angels anxious about the shape of her hat than she is about whether her

You Should not be Without It.

Every family is liable to have a hereditary taint of consumption in it. It may date back 3 or even 4 generations. This fact makes it necessary always to have on hand a remedy with which to combat this formidable disease. A cough when taken at first can readily be cured before it gets a serious hold hound Syrup when taken in its early stages will cure consumption. It is guaranteed to bring relief in affection of the throat, lungs and chest, such as consumption, inflammation of the lungs, bronchitis, asthma, whooping cough, croup, ect. It is pleasant to take, perfectly safe and can always be depended on. Sold by Smith & Dunkin.

A Victory for Kirksville.

Properly adjusted speciacles and eye-glasses are something that that the days of dueling were over, which I had reckoned my time, the poeple of Kirksvi'le have long

been in need of. Prof. H. Hirschberg the well Diamond and Non-Changeable Speciacles and Eve-Glasses where I called William, and told him I found. Prof. H. Hirschberg will instion of eyes free of charge. fa

> The christian at his worst is better than the sinner at his best.